

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 10, 12, 14 and 16-19 and canceled claim 15 without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, Applicant would like to make some comments concerning the rejection contained in the Final Office Action dated November 18, 2002 based upon the claims as amended.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-19 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sakurai.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Sakurai and respectfully submits that Sakurai only teaches that the sympathetic vibration to drive the ultrasonic wave transducer is detected by the main body from the handpiece provided with the ultrasonic wave transducer and the power corresponding to the frequency is transmitted. In contrast thereto, Applicant's invention is not limited to the information for driving such as frequency and can transmit several identification signals other than an ID code identifying each instrument assembly to the main body.

Furthermore, in Sakurai, the receiver is limited to an ultrasonic wave transducer drive circuit. In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention when the instrument assembly is identified, a drive circuit and a control circuit corresponding to the identified instrument assembly is selectively driven in the main body and the circuits and instrument assembly are automatically connected to be driven.

Still further, in Sakurai, while the different of the frequency can be distinguished, Sakurai cannot distinguish which one of a plurality of handpieces having the same frequency is attached. Applicant respectfully submits that it is not an object of Sakurai's invention to achieve such an identification. However, in contrast to Sakurai, in Applicant's invention an individual identification number corresponding to each instrument can be allocated so that the handpieces with the same function can be distinguished.

Finally, Applicant respectfully submits that in Sakurai a signal is not transmitted only by connecting a handpiece. In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention an identification signal is transmitted when receiving electric power upon connecting the instrument assembly to the main body. As a result, the instrument assembly can be easily detected at the same time of connection of the instrument assembly without special operations.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Sakurai does not suggest Applicant's invention as claimed by claims 1-14 and 16-19 and one of ordinary skill in

the art would not be motivated to make Applicant's invention as claimed based upon the teachings of Sakurai. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-14 and 16-19 are not obvious over Sakurai.


Applicant further respectfully and retroactively requests a three-month extension of time so as to respond to the Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account No. 11-1445 in the sum of \$930.00 as the fee.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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